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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--31 DECEMBER 1962

1. CUBA:

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A. THE TEN TACTICAL MISSILE TRANSPORTERS WERE STILL ON THE PIER AT MARIEL ON FRIDAY AND WE HAVE YET TO SEE ANY FURTHER SUGGESTIONS OF SOVIET GROUND FORCE WITHDRAWAL. PHOTOGRAPHY OF THURSDAY AND FRIDAY SHOWED CONTINUING CONSTRUCTION AT TWO OF THE FOUR ARMORED ENCAMPMENTS.

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E. THE SOVIETS APPEAR TO BE SENDING ONLY A MEDIUM-LEVEL GROUP TO THE 2 JANUARY CELEBRATION IN HAVANA, ALTHOUGH IT INCLUDES SEVERAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS. THE "PUBLIC" DELEGATION IS HEADED BY THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMY OF

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SCIENCES, WHILE A MILITARY DELEGATION IS HEADED BY MARSHAL KRYLOV, THE COMMANDER OF THE MOSCOW MILITARY DISTRICT. SOVIET PUBLIC RELATIONS TYPES HAVE ALSO SENT COSMONAUT POPOVICH (THREE DAYS IN ORBIT IN AUGUST).

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2. COMMUNIST CHINA:

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A.

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LARGE PERMANENT MILITARY BARRACKS AND WAREHOUSE AREAS HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTED IN SOUTHERN YUNNAN PROVINCE NEAR THE BORDERS WITH NORTH VIETNAM, LAOS AND BURMA. THE LARGEST OF THESE INSTALLATIONS IS AT SSUMAO, WITHIN FIFTY MILES OF LAOS.

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B. WE THINK THAT THESE GARRISONS COULD POSSIBLY HOUSE AS MANY AS 100,000 TROOPS, BUT WE HAVE ESTIMATED ONLY 35,000 TROOPS TO BE STATIONED IN THE BORDER AREA.

C. WE HAVE NOT YET DETERMINED WHEN CONSTRUCTION OF THESE FACILITIES WAS UNDERTAKEN. THERE HAS BEEN NO OTHER EVIDENCE OF AN INFLUX OF GROUND FORCES INTO THE AREA AND THE BARRACKS MAY NOT BE COMPLETELY OCCUPIED.

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3. USSR/INDONESIA:

A. [REDACTED] SOVIET PERSONNEL [REDACTED] HAVE BEEN TRAINING

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THE INDONESIAN AIR FORCE IN ITS NEW GEAR [REDACTED]

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4. DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:

A. THE EPISODE INITIALLY ANNOUNCED AS A "PEASANT REVOLT" ON FRIDAY NEAR THE HAITIAN FRONTIER ACTUALLY INVOLVED THE VIOLENT DISPERSAL OF SOME 1,200 MEMBERS OF A RELIGIOUS CULT.

B. THE TROUBLE BROKE OUT WHEN A CULTIST MOVED ON A POLICEMAN WITH A MACHETE. SOME FIFTY WERE KILLED AND ALMOST

700 TAKEN PRISONER. THE ARMED FORCES ARE NOW MOVING TO DIS-
BAND OTHER BRANCHES OF THE CULT WITH AS LITTLE BLOODSHED
AS POSSIBLE.

C. THERE IS NO PROOF THAT THE CULTISTS WERE INSPIRED
OR USED BY TRUJILLOITES, PRO-CASTROITES, OR OPPORTUNISTS IN
THE PRESENT INTERIM GOVERNMENT. ACCORDING TO RADIO HAVANA,
HOWEVER, THEY WORSHIP ONE LIBORIO, WHO WAS "MURDERED" BY US
MARINES IN 1922.

5. INDIA/PAKISTAN:

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C. [REDACTED] POST-MORTEMS FROM KARACHI SUGGEST THAT
BOTH SIDES THOUGHT THE TALKS AT RAWALPINDI WENT "REASONABLY
WELL."

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6. CONGO:

A. DESPITE U THANT'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT UN FORCES-- WHICH CONTROL ELISABETHVILLE, KIPUSHI, AND KAMINAVILLE-- HAD COMPLETED THEIR OPERATION, THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT UN FORCES IN KATANGA, PERHAPS MOVING SOMEWHAT FASTER THAN NEW YORK WOULD LIKE, MAY NOW TRY TO MOVE ON TO JADOTVILLE.

BOTH GULLION, IN LEOPOLDVILLE, AND US CONSUL DEAN, IN ELISABETHVILLE, FELT YESTERDAY THE UN SHOULD CONTINUE ITS ACTION.

B. TSHOMBE, FROM SALISBURY, IS SAID TO BE RETURNING TO KATANGA WHERE HE HAD CLAIMED HE WOULD CONTINUE THE FIGHT. MANY OF HIS ADVISERS FAVOR A DESPERATE RESISTANCE. WE DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT HE CAN REVERSE THE SITUATION MILITARILY IF THE UN'S MOMENTUM IS MAINTAINED.

C. HIS FORCES ARE SCATTERED AND THERE ARE SOME SIGNS THAT THE MORALE OF MERCENARIES IS NOT NOW OF THE BEST. HOWEVER, THERE MAY BE GUERRILLA ACTIONS. WE QUESTION WHETHER THE OFT-THREATENED SCORCHED-EARTH POLICY WILL BE CARRIED OUT.

D. CONGOLESE ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN LEOPOLDVILLE HAS AN AMBITIOUS PLAN TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION BY OCCUPYING TOWNS IN NORTHERN KATANGA, BUT ITS PRESENT CAPABILITIES ARE AT BEST QUESTIONABLE. MEANWHILE, ADOULA'S ENTOURAGE IS TRYING TO GET HIM TO ISSUE A MODERATE STATEMENT OFFERING KATANGAN LEADERS AN AMNESTY.

E. OUR LATEST ON THE DECREE RECESSING PARLIAMENT IN LEOPOLDVILLE IS THAT IT WILL BE MADE PUBLIC TODAY. WE SHALL SEE.

F. ELISABETHVILLE HAS BEEN QUIET, BUT THE BALUBAS--CELEBRATING THE UN VICTORY AS THEIR OWN--ARE RESTLESS AND TRIBAL DIFFICULTIES MAY YET ERUPT.

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G. BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SPAAK, OUT OF BED FOR THE CRISIS, MAY BE IN DEEPER TROUBLE AT HOME AS A RESULT OF SEVERAL INCIDENTS IN ELISABETHVILLE INCLUDING THE KILLING OF A BELGIAN WOMAN. ANOTHER EPISODE, SHOULD IT GET OUT, COULD ALSO CAUSE DIFFICULTY--UN CIVIL CHIEF MATHU IN ELISABETHVILLE, WHO HAS BEEN UNDER CONSIDERABLE STRAIN, WAS DRUNK DURING THE CONFRONTATION WITH TSHOMBE THURSDAY NIGHT.

H. SPAAK THINKS A CONFERENCE IN LEOPOLDVILLE BRINGING TOGETHER ADOULA AND TSHOMBE UNDER UN AUSPICES WOULD BE THE ONLY MEANS OF WORKING OUT A MEANINGFUL CONGO CONCILIATION.

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7. NOTES:

A. USSR: THE COSMOS SATELLITE SENT UP FROM TYURATAM ON THE 22ND WAS BROUGHT DOWN YESTERDAY--STAYING UP FOUR DAYS LONGER THAN ANY PREVIOUSLY RECOVERED SPACE VEHICLE. ITS PRECISE MISSION HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED.

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[REDACTED]

B. COMMUNIST CHINA: PEIPING CONTINUES TO REQUIRE LARGE QUANTITIES OF WESTERN GRAIN, SIGNING CONTRACTS RECENTLY WITH AUSTRALIA, CANADA AND FRANCE. IMPORTS FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 1963 ARE EXPECTED TO TOTAL SOME 3.5 MILLION TONS--ABOUT THE SAME AS THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR.

C. WEST GERMANY: BONN HAS YET TO DECIDE ON ITS "POSITION" ON THE NASSAU PLAN. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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D. BRAZIL: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] GOULART IS MUCH EXERCISED BY WORD OF A PLOT AMONG MILITARY OFFICERS--INCLUDING MINISTER OF WAR GENERAL KRUEL--TO THROW HIM OUT AND SET UP A "MODERATE RIGHTIST MILITARY DICTATORSHIP" EITHER THIS WEEK OR JUST AFTER ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NATIONAL PLEBISCITE ON 20 JANUARY. SHOULD THIS MOVEMENT AMOUNT TO ANYTHING, WE WOULD HOPE TO HEAR MORE OF IT.

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E. LAOS: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] KONG LE IS NOW MOVING HIS TROOPS IN THE PLAINE DES JARRES INTO POSITIONS FROM WHICH THEY COULD "BREAK OUT" TO JOIN LAOTIAN ARMY TROOPS TO THE SOUTH. WE CANNOT CONFIRM THIS, BUT KONG LE HAS BEEN INCREASINGLY VOCAL ABOUT THE PATHET LAO. HIS SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN ALL BUT CUT OFF BY THEM, DESPITE SOUVANNA'S EFFORTS. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

F. CENTRAL AMERICA: THE CENTRAL AMERICAN PRESIDENTS
ARE PLANNING A CONCLAVE IN EARLY FEBRUARY, BEFORE PRESIDENT
KENNEDY'S VISIT, "IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH AND ANALYZE THE
POINTS TO BE DISCUSSED." [REDACTED]

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